



Attorney's Docket No.: H0498.70153US00

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

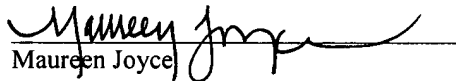
Applicant: Mara G. Prentiss  
Serial No.: 09/997,998  
Conf. No.: 4037  
Filed: November 30, 2001  
For: MICROMAGNETIC SYSTEMS AND METHODS FOR MICROFLUIDICS

Examiner: Joseph C. Rodriguez  
Art Unit: 3653

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**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8(a)**

The undersigned hereby certifies that this document is being placed in the United States mail with first-class postage attached, addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Arlington, VA, 22313-1450, on the 5<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2004.

  
Maureen Joyce

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Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Arlington, VA 22313-1450

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MAR 15 2004  
**GROUP 3600**

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Sir:

Prior to examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this amendment.

Remarks begin on page 3 of this amendment.



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3-16-04  
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Signature

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Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**RESPONSE TO ELECTION REQUIREMENT**

Sir:

In response to the Election Requirement dated December 5, 2003, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration.

Applicants do not concede that the election requirement is proper, as many of the pending method claims can not properly be "read on" any of the figures upon which the requirement is based. However, solely for the purposed of expediting the patent application process, Applicants elect Species VI, based on Figures 9-10.

The Office Action requests that Applicants list all claims readable on the elected species. Solely in the interests of expediting prosecution, Applicants believe that the following claims appear to form a group commensurate with the elected species for search and examination purposes only: 55-58, 60-63, 65-72, 76-79, and 96-102. Claims other than those listed here may also be relevant to the elected species in certain cases.

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This election is made with traverse. The traversal is made on the grounds that it is believed that a single search and examination covering all claims would not place an undue burden on the Examiner.

Respectfully submitted,

By: 

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Date: March 5, 2004  
**x03/05/2004**  
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